

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims do not add new matter. Rejected and/or withdrawn claims 1-13 and 19-21 have been cancelled. **Claims 14 and 17 have been allowed.** Claims 22-24 have been amended to recite dependency from allowed claim 14. On this basis claims 22-24 are also free of the prior art and allowable.

In addition, allowed claim 14 has been amended to clarify that the “first end” and the “second end” refer back to the antecedent “tendon.” Claims 14 and 17 have been amended to recite the “bone tendon bone” graft as the more grammatically correct “bone-tendon-bone” graft which conforms to the recitation in dependent claims 22-24. Also, claim 22, which has been amended to recite that either the first bone block “or the second bone block” is derived from a patella, is supported throughout the specification, including at page 3, line 31 to page 4, line 1 (“The BTB is preferably isolated from the knee of a donor.”); at page 4, lines 8-10 (“In a more preferred embodiment, **one of the bone blocks is derived from the patella**, while the other is derived from the end of the tibia, and the tendon is derived from the patellar tendon.”); at page 5, lines 13-15 (“In an even more preferred embodiment, the donor area extends the length of the patellar tendon to the patella, **wherein the bone blocks are excised from the patella.**”)).

Claim 23, which has been amended to recite that either “the first bone block or the second bone block” is derived from a tibia, is supported throughout the specification, including at page 4, lines 8-10 (“In a more preferred embodiment, **one of the bone blocks is derived from the patella, while the other is derived from the end of the tibia**, and the tendon is derived from the patellar tendon.”)

For all these reasons, claims 14, 17 and 22-24 are free of the prior art, fully supported by the disclosure and allowable. Their allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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